

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 – 18 are pending in this case. Claims 2, 9, 11, and 18 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3 – 8, 10, and 12 – 17 have been amended.

§102 Rejections

Claims 1 – 18 have been rejected under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by Christiano, US 5,386,369, hereinafter denoted as “Christiano”.

Claims 2, 9, 11, and 18 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3 – 8, 10, and 12 – 17 have been amended to overcome the §102 rejections, as detailed below. No new material has been entered, and the amendments are fully supported by the specification as originally filed, as detailed in the following discussion.

The prior art of Christiano is directed to a system for metering (recording and tracking) software usage. Although Christiano does disclose storing information within the computer itself [Christiano col. 1 lines 57-58], Christiano fails to teach the storage of information in a manner making full use of the operational data storage capabilities featured on a computer. In Christiano’s described embodiments, collected information is stored on a separate device (a “dongle” [Christiano *inter alia* Figure 3; col. 2 lines 47-49]), rather than on the computer itself. As further detailed herein below, Christiano thereby fails to teach important features of the present invention, as disclosed in the present application.

Christiano teaches deriving an encryption key related to a serial number [Christiano col. 3 lines 47 – 51], and Christiano further teaches storing information in numbered “slots” of a memory storage device [Christiano *inter alia* col. 2, line 6].

Although Christiano discloses a scheme for allocating slots by number to store information [Christiano col. 10 lines 6-7], it is noted that Christiano is concerned with the issue of memory wear in the storage device [Christiano *inter alia* abstract “*The disclosed invention utilizes a system of pointers and counter slots in order to prevent the loss of metering information due to non-volatile read/write memory wear out*”, col 10 lines 14 – 20]. Christiano fails to disclose the goal of hiding information to deter an attacker, as is a goal of the present invention. For these reasons, therefore, Christiano fails to teach the storage of information in locations having names derived in a secret manner, as is featured by the present invention and disclosed in the present specification.

Specifically, the present application discloses the deriving of a name for storing and retrieving information in a secret manner (emphasis added):

[Present application, Figure 1, **12** and **13**; Figure 2, **22** and **23**]

[Present application, paragraph **0010**] “...storing said information in one or more storage entries (e.g. file, registry entry), having *a name that is derived in a secret manner from the identity (e.g. serial number) of one or more computer components.*”

[Present application, paragraph **0016**] ‘The term “identity of a computer component” refers herein to a string that characterizes the computer component, and can be retrieved by computer means.’

[Present application, paragraph **0018**] “...*the following elements characterize the invention:*

[Present application, paragraph **0019**] “... *Deriving a name from the identity of one or more computer components in a confidential manner.*

[Present application, paragraph **0020**] “... *Storing the protected information in a storage entry based on said name.*”

The above amendments to the claims are based on the above-disclosed material of the present application as originally-filed, and recite the novel features of deriving a name for the storage entry in which the information is stored in a secret and confidential manner.

It is noted that the feature of deriving a name in a secret manner, as recited in canceled claims 2 and 11, has been incorporated into amended base claims 1 and 10, respectively.

It is also noted that the present application further describes a process for generating a name in a confidential and secret manner, based on the identity of a computer component utilizing cryptographic methods and pseudo-random number techniques known in the art [present application *inter alia* paragraphs 0021 through 0027]. Christiano discloses using cryptographic methods to derive an encryption key, but fails to disclose deriving a name for a storage entity, and therefore fails to anticipate these features of the above-amended dependent claims 7 and 16, respectively.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1 – 18 are accordance with 35 USC §102, and are therefore in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a notice of allowance is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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